



CORONA CORNER

CORONA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DENVER, CO

FEBRUARY 2009

Ways to love one another at Corona

Deacons provide the tools

Have you heard the term, “one-anothering?” Well, the deacons are encouraging you to check their new bulletin board in the hallway outside the sanctuary. You will find on the bulletin board an opportunity to sign up and greet friends and visitors at the the door.

Now, here’s where “one-anothering” comes in -- you will notice two sign up sheets on the bulletin board: Blessings Needed and Blessings Offered. Our church community has many resources with which to help one another.. Some of us might need help with meals; some of us could make a casserole or two. Someone may have an extra piece of furniture; someone may need that very thing. Some might need help around the house . . . a ride to the doctors . . . help with grocery shopping.

So stop by the deacons’ bulletin board and use the sign up sheets or note cards for blessings needed or offered. Corona folks, please check the board and let’s “one-another!”

Dinners welcome newcomers to their new church home

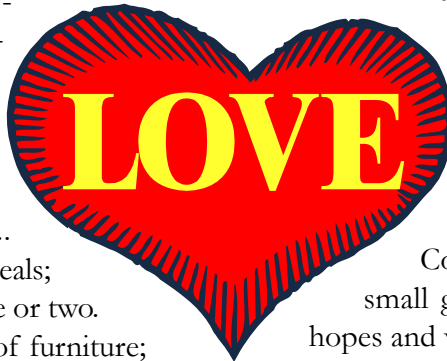
The Welcome Committee plans to hold its first quarterly New Connections Dinner at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 29.

The dinner is for newcomers to Corona who are looking for a new church home and family. This is an opportunity for visitors to make new friends while enjoying a home-cooked meal in a friendly location.

Our guests can learn about Corona’s ministry activities; our small groups; as well as our beliefs, hopes and vision of the future.

From two to six newcomers will be invited as well as Pastor Geiter, two elders or deacons and one or two regular Corona members.

Those interested in attending should contact Jan Helmer, Sally Johnson or the church office.



From my mind's eye . . .

These past weeks we have experienced weather that was 70 degrees and in just a few days the weather was 9 degrees. The weather in Denver keeps me on my toes. If you don't pay attention you wear clothes for the winter when spring has arrived or you wear clothes for spring and winter has returned. One has to pay attention or you get caught unprepared.

Discerning weather is in some ways a lot easier than discerning what God is up to. You have a weatherman that can tell you what he sees coming our way through all his/her scientific apparatus. Discerning what God desires us to be doing is somewhat concrete, but at the same time, it is like art -- open to interpretation. The concrete piece is that we have God's word, which is pretty explicit as to how we are to live our lives and how we as a church are supposed to live. It is both specific and general. According to Jesus in Matthew 22:37-39 we are to love God with all that we are and we are to love our neighbor as our self. The art part is figuring out or discerning what God is saying about what loving Him looks like and what loving our neighbor looks like.

Discernment comes through listening to the voice of God in the scriptures, listening to God in our own hearts and listening to God with each other. We have done that in creating our mission /vision statement. Please understand that this process of discernment does not stop there! Corona has had many a mission/vision statement. It is moving and living in the direction of our mission/vision statement. It is to guide how we act as the Church.

I have used the word 'missional' at times in preaching, talking with the elders and talking about our church. This 'missional' idea is that we begin to discern God's heart for those outside of our four walls.



This 'missional' idea means we take seriously the scriptures, which speak to us about loving our neighbor. Missional thinking is not necessarily about foreign missions, something we do very well at Corona, but local missions, right where we live and right where our church is located. Our Session at Corona has joined a Presbytery covenant group called 'Missional Church Project.' To alleviate any fears, it will not change the way we practice church on Sunday mornings. It is a process of discerning and

listening to God in one or more small learning groups. These learning groups will then attempt experiments in being missional that God is leading them to consider and explore. In the coming months you will be hearing more about this project.

Thanks for coming to the Annual Congregation meeting. It was good, fun and hopeful.

May God's grip be the one you hang on to, for it is the strongest!

Pastor John

CORONA CORNER

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Submit items to newsletter box in office
or e-mail to Bob*

Corona looks to new year

Corona elected new elders, deacons and trustees during the annual congregational meeting on Jan. 21, and reviewed its finances and budget for the coming year.

Reports were heard from staff and committees and future goals were discussed.

New elders include Charles Ro, Sean Morris, Cal Dunlap, John Kumar and Darrell Delimont.

Appreciation was given to the outgoing elders, including Elaine Connell, Jan Helmer and Ellen McKenzie.

Thanks also was given to graduating deacons, including Tania Fendel and Kristol Kumar. Currently there are six deacons, and more members are being sought.

Renewing members of the board of trustees include Greg Fee and Bob Gross. In a new position for Corona, Darrell Delimont will be president of the trustees as well as a voting elder. Having a trustee as a member of session will be tried for one year to see how it works, said Pastor John Geiter. The goal is to improve communication and coordination between session and the trustees.

The budget was presented by outgoing Board of Trustees President Greg Fee. The 2009 budget is \$383,548, which is about \$76,000 less than in 2008. He noted that the 2009 budget is about \$38,000 more than 2008 income, a gap that we can realistically close with increased giving. The



Pastor John Geiter reviews the annual report with session members prior to the the start of the congregational meeting.

2009 budget is much closer to what we expect to spend than in past years. By comparison, the 2008 budget was set at \$104,000 more than 2007 income.

Several elders spoke about their hopes and goals for 2009. John Walbert noted the good response to missions. Mike Wenger said there has been two interesting adult Sunday School classes to choose from. Jan Helmer said the effort to welcome visitors shows we are “moving in the right direction.” John Gibbs said Corona has “really great kids” and many volunteers have helped the children and youth. Jary Dailey thanked Lowell Tursick and Joan Tupper for their faithful service as ushers. She said we now have several new ushers, as well as 18 people trained to pray for others following each service.

-- Bob True



Deacon's Corner- Helping You Serve One Another

On Sunday February 1, The Board of Deacons began collecting a new offering for the Benevolence Fund. This will be a special offering taken once a month on communion Sunday and will be used to bless our congregation and neighbors who are experiencing hard times. We envision using that money to purchase things like grocery gift cards, restaurant gifts cards for people who come to the church seeking short term help, paying utility bills, etc. The offerings will be collected in a collection plate located at the back of the sanctuary. In these hard economic times it is important that we remem-

ber to give in addition to our tithes to help our friends and neighbors.

The Flower Ministry Board is on the credenza in the front lobby. The flower arrangements that you see at the greeter's desk cost \$15.00

After Sunday, the flowers are taken to the sick or shut in members of our congregation. You may sign up to purchase the flowers and, if you like, place a dedication in the Sunday bulletin that week.

Finally, as you know the deacon board is operating with about half the usual members. Be praying whether God has called you to help out in ministering to our community. Please contact Laura Anderson if you can be involved in this vital ministry. She will gladly put you to work!

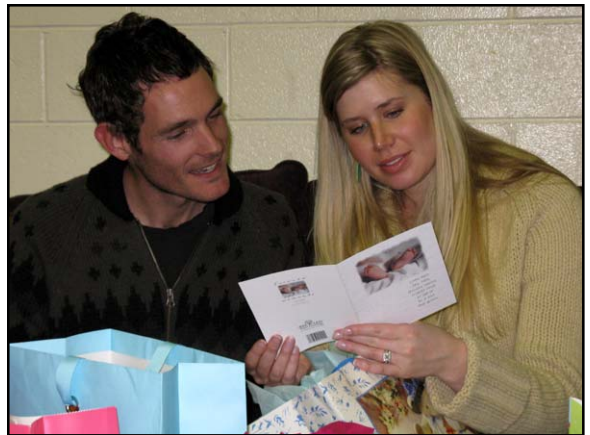
Goodbye shower/party held for Syrdals

Saying goodbye to Matt and Alyssa Syrdal was bittersweet on Jan. 25. About 50 members of Corona celebrated with the Syrdals as they look forward to a new job for Matt, and a new baby for the couple in the near future.

Matt began as Corona's part-time youth director last June. He started his new job in February at Grace Presbyterian Church in Centennial where he will be a full-time youth director.

Most of the youth attended the party, as well as parents and other members of Corona. The youth decorated a quilt made by the sewing circle group and presented it to the Syrdals.

A search committee has formed to review resumes and candidates for a new youth director.



Matt and Alyssa Syrdal

Committee members include Pam Marsh, Mike Wenger, Jessica True, Elyse Miller and John Kumar.

Mission trip to India an adventure and blessing for all

Excerpts From the Love Outreach Ministries Newsletter:

"The poor and the homeless will not always be forgotten." Psalm 9:18

Greetings to you in the highly exalted name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

During our Nov-Dec 2008 mission trip, Renee, Lynne and Marge joined us. We were received with great joy everywhere we went.

It was a blessing to serve the poor and the needy.

Prior to the trip, children's books, clothes, sweaters, school supplies, soaps, shampoo, candies and cookies were donated by Corona church. In every place we went to minister, we were able



At the orphanage

to give full suitcases containing the donations. This also included two suitcases containing clothing given to persecuted Christians. We are very thankful to everyone who donated items for this trip.

God answered our prayers. We did more than we planned to do during this trip. Even though there were distur-



Songs of joy

bances in several places, God brought us back safely. We are very grateful to God for His guidance and protection. By the grace of God and your prayers our mission trip to India was a great success.

Notes from Lynne:

Time spent at the Love Outreach orphanage was the highlight. After we were met at the airport by Sister Suryam, who greeted us with bouquets of flowers, we continued by jeep driving many hours over rugged, pot-holed roads to the orphanage, which is tucked away in a little village deep into Hindu country. We arrived in the dark and the rain. Children emerged from the stone building and greeted us at the car with umbrellas and singing.

Notes from Renee:

So what are my thoughts about India? The snapshots in my mind are of the friends of JAC and Maria, in Chennai, in Visak, and throughout southern India, the tireless work of those in Love Outreach Ministry. The kindness of people who did not know us at all, yet risked their safety and their comfort to host us, to feed us, to visit with us. The sisters who prayed for us. The young people, beautiful smiling. The poor, the beggars, of huts and squalor and the crush of the cities and the poverty but beauty of coun-

tryside. Of the aroma of delicious meals cooking; the smell of oxen and cows and goats and chickens; the beauty of the rivers and mountains and the ocean. Of the colorful Saris and Salwar Kamize. I believe we blessed those we came to serve. But more than that I was humbled and blessed and served by the people on God's heart. Finally as I close my eyes, I can see the smiles on the faces of the children of the orphanage and the Hill tribe school. And my life will never be the same.

Youth News

Youth Group at Corona

6-8 p.m. Sundays



Coordinator: Jan Goellner

Support team: Todd Krantz, Holly Miller, Melissa Wright and
the parents of our young people.

"Confirmation Class 09"

Who: Any High School Student

Starts: Sunday, February 1- May 10

Time: 10:00 A.M. Sunday mornings in the Senior High
youth room

Teacher: John Geiter



Confirmation is a class to help our young people understand the foundations of the Christian faith and what and who we are as a church. At the conclusion of confirmation class these young people will have the opportunity to become members of Corona. If this interests you or your young person and you've not received a packet concerning this class, please contact the church office.



CORONA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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E-mail office@coronachurch.com

Web Site www.coronachurch.com

Sunday Worship

Heritage Service **8:45 a.m.**

Childcare and nursery available until Noon

Sunday School for all **10-10:45 a.m.**

Contemporary Service **11 a.m.**

Children's Church/Puppets

Staff

Rev. John Geiter

Senior Pastor

C.J. Garbo

Choir Director

Paul James

Accompanist

Nancy Rowley

Secretary

Jim Watson

Contemporary Worship Director

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If you are receiving a newsletter and do not wish to, please notify the church office.